



## **DODGE COUNTY EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE DODGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**

**April 19, 2021**

The Dodge County Extension Education Committee of the Dodge County Board of Supervisors met Monday, April 19, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. in Room C in the Dodge County Administration Building, 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, WI.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairperson Allen Behl – District 19, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with the following members present: Jenifer Hedrick (present via Zoom) – District 22; Travis Schultz – District 25; Annette Thompson – Dodge County School District Superintendent (present via Zoom).

**Also present:** Human Development and Relationships Educator, Pattie Carroll; Area Extension Director Jeff Hoffman; Extension Dodge County department lead Tracy Malterer.

**Also present via Zoom:** Kimberly Lafler, FoodWise Nutrition Educator; Caitlin Richardson, FoodWise Nutrition Coordinator; Marie Witzel, Positive Youth Development Educator; and Amanda Young, Dairy and Livestock Educator.

**A moment of silence was held in memory of Naomi Kriewald who passed on April 17, 2021.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion by Schultz, second by Hedrick to approve the March 2021 minutes as printed. Motion approved 4-0.

**REVIEW OF DEPARTMENT REVENUE AND EXPENSES:** Review and discussion of the Division of Extension - Dodge County revenues and expenses for March 2021 as presented. Hoffman noted that, in coordination with the Finance department, the County Conservation Aids Grant and the Dodge County Junior Fair allocations have been placed in their own separate fiscal divisions.

**APPROVAL OF PER DIEMS OF EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE FOR APRIL 19, 2021 AND FOR CHAIRMAN BEHL'S ATTENDANCE AT THE MARCH 11, 2021 INTERVIEW FOR A SOIL HEALTH EDUCATOR POSITION BETWEEN DODGE AND FOND DU LAC COUNTIES:** Chairperson Behl reviewed the per diem sheets as listed. Motion by Schultz, second by Thompson to approve per diems as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

**UPDATE ON DIVISION OF EXTENSION FROM AREA DIRECTOR:** Hoffman gave an update on the status of hiring a Soil Health Educator. The March interviews resulted in a failed search by the interview panel. Hoffman met with the Fond du Lac Area Extension Director, the Ag Program Institute Manager, and Ag Institute Director to refine the position description that reflects an emphasis on applied research and outreach activities that build relationships with county stakeholders. The position is expected to be reposted April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL TO ACCEPT THE ANNUAL FOODWISE AGREEMENT LETTER FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2022:** The letter was reviewed by the Committee. FoodWise is a federally funded program that delivers local policy, systems and environmental impacts and outcomes. Motion by Hedrick, second by Thompson. Motion carried 4-0.

### **SHORT ORAL REPORTS BY EXTENSION EDUCATORS:**

#### **Pattie Carroll, Human Development & Relationships Educator**

Carroll reported that she is currently teaching WeCOPE, a 6-week interactive program that helps adults cope with life stress. Sessions meet once a week for one hour. The six sessions encourage practicing skills such as mindfulness, savoring, positive reappraisal, gratitude, and goal setting, among others. Carroll is also teaching Parent Connect, a parenting education seven-week series that help parents learn strategies to

teach social emotional learning competencies to their children. Carroll and Tracy Malterer are working with Extension specialists from the Design Wisconsin Team to bring a three-day charrette (visit) to the community of Hustisford.

**Tracy Malterer, Extension Department Lead/Program Support** – Malterer informed the committee on Extension's Design Wisconsin Team's purpose and its work in assisting rural communities to identify and visualize their short, medium, and long range vision and strategies for the future. A team of volunteer design and planning professionals reside in the host community for 3 days and engage in a variety of community activities to collect knowledge and inform residents of community issues and opportunities. The information gathered from community focus groups, workshops, and activities are converted into a visual representation of the host community's future. The local planning team from Hustisford liaisons with Extension Dodge County to coordinate its objectives in preparing for the Design Wisconsin Team's visit to Hustisford in May of 2022. Carroll and Malterer facilitated the Design Hustisford Planning Committee's Kickoff Meeting on March 29. Extension Dodge County will continue to coordinate with the local planning team and Extension's Design Team specialists through May 2022.

**Kimberly Lafler, FoodWise Educator & Caitlin Richardson, FoodWise Coordinator** - Kimberly Lafler updated the committee on how virtual lessons were going. She made mention of some feedback from partners. A principal from one of the FoodWise partner schools noted the use of content from a FoodWise lesson when encouraging a student to try a new food. The principal was successful in getting the student to try the new food and the student ended up liking that food. Caitlin Richardson is working on finalizing the fiscal year 2022 plan of work. Almost all of the partners that FoodWise had this current year are returning to the program next year. FoodWise is starting to make deeper efforts to get to know communities and evaluate partnerships in which efforts outside of direct education are made with policy, systems and environment work being more of a priority in upcoming years. Richardson also updated the committee on the status of the garden project in Beaver Dam. The gardens are going to be built May 8<sup>th</sup>, unless it rains.

**Marie Witzel, Positive Youth Development Educator** – Witzel reported that 8 more new volunteers were trained during the Volunteers in Preparation (VIP) training since the last meeting. Witzel is working on professional development that she is co-presenting as a part of the Thrive Evaluation team. The first presentation is at the Wisconsin Joint Council of Extension Professionals session. The second presentation is for the National Positive Youth Development Academy in May. Witzel and Dodge County 4-H are also excited that Extension guidance is phasing into opening of more 4-H programming. There were 25 program plans reviewed for in-person 4-H club or group gatherings in April. There will be a county fair in August, and the county 4-H program and clubs are awaiting new Extension summer guidance to know which activities under 4-H programs will occur.

**Amanda Young, Dairy and Livestock Educator** – Young discussed some of the programs she has been working on. Young completed *Badger Dairy Insight* series that started in December and contained 15 programs over 18 weeks, featuring state specialists and county educators. Second, Young discussed the Youth Tractor Safety Certification course she co-hosted throughout March with Marie Witzel. This course is designed to meet the state and federal guidelines for youth tractor and machinery certification for 12 to 16-year-old youth. This year's program was a mix of virtual (in-person) programming, self-study, and hands-on driving tests. We are excited to have had 32 youth completing and passing the classroom and written test portion of this training. The driving test will be conducted on Friday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at the Dodge County Fairgrounds. Finally, Young discussed the Beef Quality Assurance Program (BQA) she is organizing for the fall of 2021. This year marks 3 years since roughly 3,000 WI farmers completed a three-year BQA certification and the state's Extension BQA team is planning programming to meet the recertification need.

*Thompson was excused from the meeting at 9:30am*

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** The Committee discussed a possible change to the meeting schedule and determined to wait until the current Supervisor vacancy is filled to revisit any possible changes to the meeting day and time. The next regularly scheduled Extension Education Committee meeting is Monday, May 17, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. in the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Auditorium of the Dodge County Administration Building at 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, Wisconsin.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to come before this Committee, the meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Behl at 9:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Vacancy, Secretary

  
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Allen Behl, Chairperson